

FORM B - BUILDING

Date (month / year): March 2018

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL
COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125

Photograph



Locus Map



Recorded by: Lara Kritzer, JM Goldson
community preservation + planning

Organization: Hanson Historical Commission

62-0-2-0

Hanover

HNS.218

Town/City: Hanson

Place: (*neighborhood or village*):

Address: 526 Indian Head Street

Historic Name: William White House

Uses: Present: Summer Camp

Original: Single Family Dwelling

Date of Construction: ca.1848

Source: White's History, Plan 6, #95, Page 118

Style/Form: Greek Revival Cape

Architect/Builder: Unknown

Exterior Material:

Foundation: Granite block, concrete

Wall/Trim: Wood Shingle/Wood

Roof: Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures: Mid-to-late twentieth century buildings including a garage, clubhouse, utility buildings, four cabins (ca. 1950s), tennis court in-ground swimming pool, and pump house

Major Alterations (with dates): Dormers, vinyl replacement windows, wood replacement door, additions to north and east facades of the house including an attached garage

Condition: Fair

Moved: no yes **Date:**

Prior to 1848

Acreage: 9.12 acres

Setting: Located on one of Hanson's main thoroughfares in an area of predominantly single-family homes ranging from early eighteenth century farmhouses to late twentieth century suburban development on large lots which includes grass lawns and numerous mature trees, bushes, and other vegetation.

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Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.

Use as much space as necessary to complete the following entries, allowing text to flow onto additional continuation sheets.

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION:

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

The one-and-a-half story Greek Revival style cottage is located close to the main road with an attached garage extending to the southeast. Despite later additions to the northeast and east facades, the building has retained its original gable roofed form with two large dormers on its west roof slope. The house is finished in unpainted wood shingles with painted corner boards and wood trim around the gable ends. The double hung windows in the main house have all been replaced with six-over-six simulated divided light replacement windows.

The front façade of 526 Indian Head Street faces west towards the street. Two tall, narrow brick chimneys are located in the center of the roof. While the chimneys are identical in design, the north chimney appears to be newer than the south one, suggesting that it has been recently rebuilt. Below and to either side of the chimneys are substantial gable end dormers with heavy projecting pediments. Each pediment has an inset wood shingle sided center surrounded by heavy wood trim on the sides and bottom edge of the pediment which continues around the sides of each dormer. The dormers are finished in wood shingles with a relatively small replacement window below each pediment.

On the wall below, plain wood corner boards frame the front façade and a narrow band of molding runs just below the eaves. The entrance is located at the center of the façade within a large decorative door frame. The upper edge is flat and projects out over a row of dentils below. Flat pilasters with narrow capitals are located to the outer edges of the frame around a twentieth century wood replacement door and sidelights. The door is paneled with two lights at its top, while the sidelights, also a twentieth century addition, include a single long window with a panel below and are set into the original doorframe of the house. The entrance has granite steps but no railings. Two double hung windows are located to either side of the entrance.

On the south façade of the main house, two double hung windows are located in the gable end and a small, square vent is located near the lower right edge of the gable end. Below, the first floor has one double hung window and one three-part window which has a six-over-six double hung window with four-over-four windows to either side.

A gable roofed addition extends east from the rear façade of the main building and connects to a perpendicular wing housing both an enclosed porch area and the attached two-car garage. Both sections have cement foundations and appear to be early to mid-twentieth century additions to the property. The south and west facades of these additions have enclosed porches that project forward under flat roofs from the house to the garage. This porch is enclosed by large, individual twelve pane wood windows over low, rectangular wood panels. The panels are separated by square wood posts. Facing south, two of these panels are located to the left of a side entrance, which is a twelve-pane French style wood door with a small panel above the door. A narrower twelve-pane window is located in the corner to its right, and four more of these windows also line the west façade of the addition. At its far end, a square lattice trellis screens a set of cement steps leading to the two-car garage. The two-car garage sits slightly lower than the enclosed porch and has two side-by-side wooden garage doors facing the street. These are probably the original garage doors and appear to have each had a large glass

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fanlight in their top halves which has since been painted in rainbow colors. The south façade of the garage is finished to match the rest of the building, with a double hung window in the gable end and two more on the wall below.

The north façade of the main house is identical to the south façade, with the exception that the small vent on the south façade is a four-pane wood window on the north façade. At the rear corner of the gable end, a long, low shed roofed addition extends out from the north façade and along the length of the addition to the east façade of the house. The addition extends just far enough from the north wall of the house to house a twelve pane French door which is partially boarded over. The lower half of this addition is finished in wood shingle siding, while the top half has one-over-one windows which extend up and under the eaves. Twelve windows installed in sets of two run the length of the rear addition, with a wider board separating each set.

The house is located on a large property which is used as a summer camp and is one of several buildings on the site. The rest of the buildings all appear to have been built in the mid-to-late twentieth century with gable roofs with wood board siding. The only exception is a garage located to the northeast of the house which has a saltbox form with a short front gable over two garage doors. The largest of the buildings is a cross gable structure to the southeast of the house which has a cobblestone chimney and double hung windows. An in-ground swimming pool is located to the east of this building, visible by its high fencing and slide, and the remaining structures are located to the northeast. At least five other building are visible in the northeast corner of the lawn leading into the woods beyond including one large storage/concession stand building and several cabins.

A low stone wall runs along the sidewalk across the western edge of the property, behind which the site is largely open lawn for several hundred feet. Mature trees are located along the streetscape and at the edges of the property, as well as across the rear half of the site which is heavily wooded. Power lines and poles run through the center of the property, and an empty sign frame is stationed in front of the main house.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

According to White's *History of Hanson*, 526 Indian Head Street was original built on the opposite side of Indian Head Street near a well.¹ White does not mention who built or owned the house in that location but adds that it was known for many years as the William White place. Assuming that the house was relocated during William White's ownership of the property that would become 526 Indian Head Street, the house would have moved to this location sometime before 1848. William White (1793 – 1876) was born in Halifax and moved to Hanson as a farmer before 1830 according to the U.S. Census of that year. White sold the property to George Everson (1827-1897) in 1848 and the deed references both a house and barn at that time.² George's brother, Barnabus Everson, had recently married Deborah Howland who lived next door at 552 Indian Head Street, and would go on to own much of the land in the area. Within a few years, though, George Everson moved to Abington to become a shoemaker, selling the property to Martin Bourne in 1852. Martin Bourne (1830 – 1892) was also a shoemaker, but only owned the house for a few years before selling it to Henry A. Beal in 1854.³ Henry Beal (1832- 1898) was the son of Alden Beal, who at this time also lived several properties to the south on Indian Head Street. H.A. Beal is listed as the owner of the property on the Walling Map of 1856, and again on the Walker Atlas of 1879. Henry was also a shoemaker, as was his father, Alden, and continued to live at 526 Indian Head Street with his wife, Lucy Beal(1835-1907), and large family for the rest of his life. The 1903 Richards Atlas lists "Mrs. Beal" as the owner of the property.

¹ White, page 118, number 95

² Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 229, Page 96

³ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 260, Page 1

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The property passed on to Lucy's many children after her death, and in 1908 her heirs came together to sell the house to Thomas Nugent. Nugent was in the process of purchasing several contiguous properties in the area around this time. Later that same year, Nugent sold all of his Indian Head Street parcels to Jessie McClure.⁴ Jessie McClure(1865-1935) and her husband, James, are listed on Indian Head Street in the 1910 U.S. Census and Jessie owned the property for the rest of her life. When the property was next sold in 1937, the deed again listed both a house and barn on the site. The property was purchased by Edward and Harriet Sears of Quincy, who expanded their holdings to create a large estate running east from Indian Head Street to Maquan Pond.⁵ In 1948, the estate was sold to the Rainbow Camp of Massachusetts, which continues to operate a summer camp at this location today.⁶ The Rainbow Camp was founded in 1948 by Lulu Bogrech, who had also founded the Rainbow Assemblies in Massachusetts, a Masonic youth service organization. The non-profit organization strives to "give girls the tools, training, and encouragement to let their individual spirits shine bright."⁷ The Rainbow Camp functions as an overnight summer camp for girls who are members of the organization.

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⁴ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1010, Page 422

⁵ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 1783, Page 121

⁶ Plymouth County Registry of Deeds, Book 2008, Page 112

⁷ Rainbow Camp of Massachusetts Website, <http://www.massiorg.net/rainbow/default.php>

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Above, building to southeast of main house from street. Below, north façade of house with detached garage and additional buildings in the background. Photos taken by Lara Kritzer



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Additional buildings to east of main house, including pool fencing. Photo by Lara Kritzer.